DC #38

DIRECT CURRENTS

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a new hero, a new villain!

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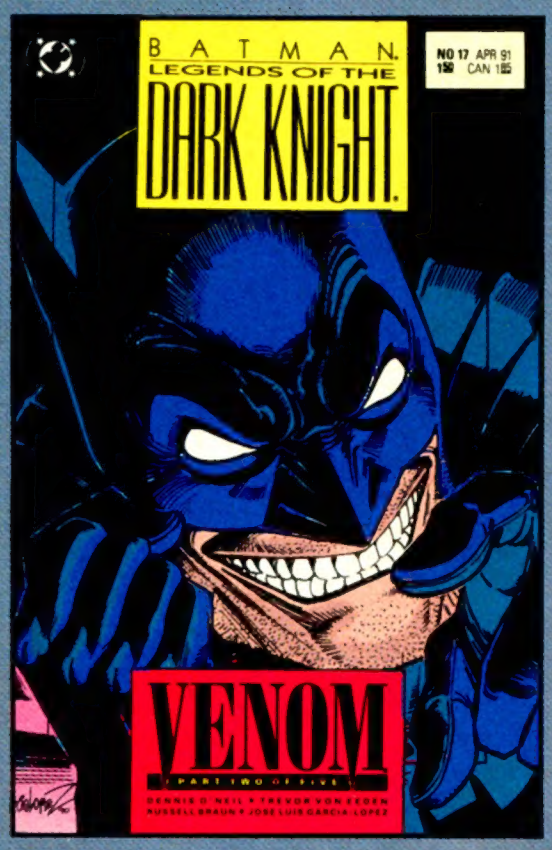
the legend begins!

PLUS . . .

an interview with Archie Goodwin, Dennis O'Neil, and Jonathan Peterson on ARMAGEDDON 2001!



Cover of the Month
BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #17

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR ARMAGEDDON 2001!

A decade from today, every DC super-hero will die. Except one. The one who destroys the others. The one who launches a new age of total oppression and total control. The one who becomes the villain *Monarch*.

But out of Monarch's shadow, a challenger rises—*Waverider*. Time is his weapon. Our present is his hunting ground. And his target is the hero who made his world hell. In the course of Waverider's quest, the future of all DC super-heroes will be shaken. One will be shattered forever.

Waverider is the catalyst setting monumental upheaval in the DC Universe in motion. **ARMAGEDDON 2001 #1** is his story. It is the lead-in to the startling crossover series that will run through the following annuals in 1991: SUPERMAN #3, BATMAN #15, JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #5, NEW TITANS #7, L.E.G.I.O.N. '91 #2, HAWKWORLD #2, FLASH #1, ACTION COMICS #2, HAWK & DOVE #2, ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #3, DETECTIVE COMICS #4, and JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE #2. The story reaches its stunning conclusion in ARMAGEDDON 2001 #2.

ARMAGEDDON 2001 #1 is written by Archie Goodwin with art by Dan Jurgens and Dick Giordano. #2 is written by Dennis O'Neil with art by Jurgens and Steve Mitchell. Each issue is 64 pages.

ARMAGEDDON 2001 . . . the future is now!

GREEN LANTERN—THE DAWN OF A LEGEND

In the beginning, all he wanted to do was fly. In the end, he became one of the greatest heroes in the universe.

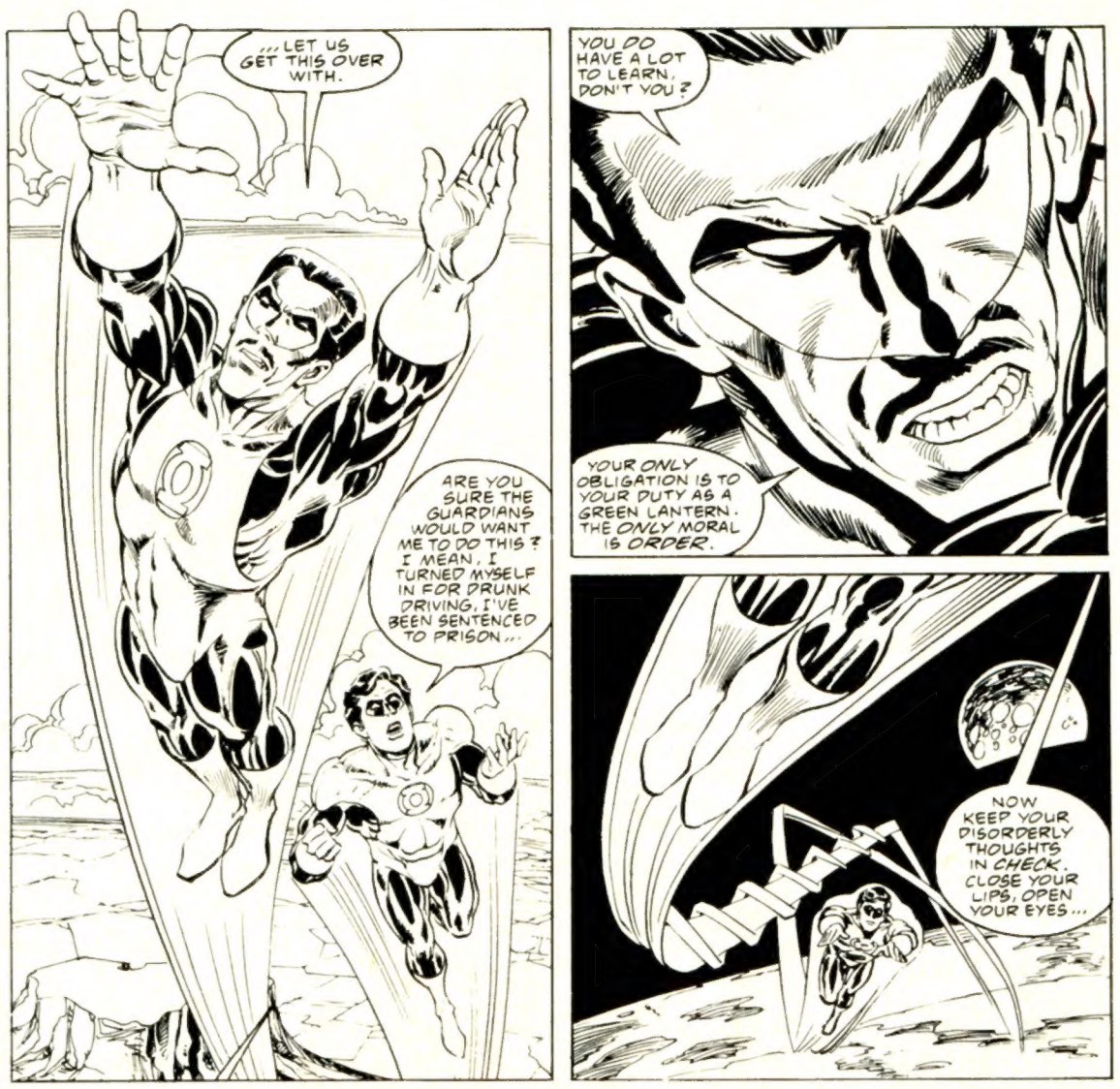
His name is Hal Jordan and the story of his first experiences as a super-hero are told here, in the **GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN TRADE PAPERBACK** and the **EMERALD DAWN II miniseries**.

GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN was one of the most talked about miniseries of 1989 and now all six issues have been collected in one volume. Read all about the life and times of the young, naive Hal Jordan and the incredible events that led to his being given the mighty Ring of Power that turned him into Green Lantern.

And it sets the stage for the events to unfold in the long-awaited sequel, the EMERALD DAWN II miniseries beginning this month!

The 144-page EMERALD DAWN TRADE PAPERBACK is written by Keith Giffen, James Owsley, and Gerard Jones, and features art by penciller M.D. Bright and inker Romeo Tanghal. The cover for the trade paperback edition is by M.D. Bright and Klaus Janson.

GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN TRADE PAPERBACK and EMERALD DAWN II . . . it's the beginning of a legend!


...LET US GET THIS OVER WITH.
ARE YOU SURE THE GUARDIANS WOULD WANT ME TO DO THIS? I MEAN, I TURNED MYSELF IN FOR DRUNK DRIVING, I'VE BEEN SENTENCED TO PRISON...
YOU DO HAVE A LOT TO LEARN, DON'T YOU?
YOUR ONLY OBLIGATION IS TO YOUR DUTY AS A GREEN LANTERN. THE ONLY MORAL IS ORDER.
NOW KEEP YOUR DISORDERLY THOUGHTS IN CHECK. CLOSE YOUR LIPS, OPEN YOUR EYES...

From Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn II Issue #2

Paul Kupperberg, Writer
Tammy Brown, Editor

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Printed in Canada

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE WITH *MISTER E*

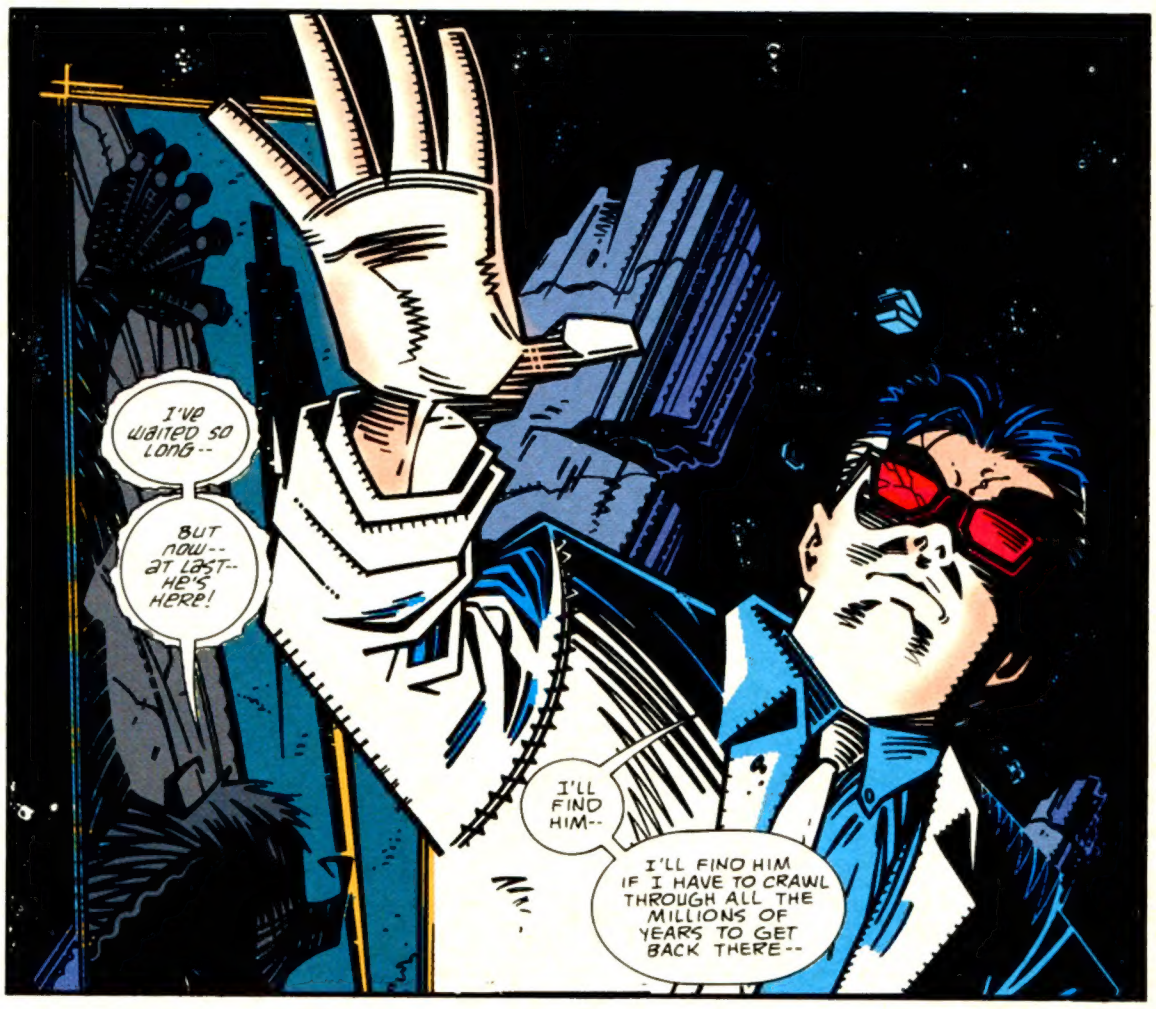
THE BOOKS OF MAGIC introduced us to the dangerous mystic known as **MISTER E:** a mentally unstable, unshakably moral, homicidally deadly blind man with the unique ability to travel through time. He reluctantly showed the secrets of the future to young Tim Hunter, the boy who may become the greatest sorcerer of the DC Universe.

Now MISTER E is back—but he's not what he used to be. Trapped in the far future, his time-travel power gone, he's completely obsessed with one goal: killing Tim Hunter. He's also come to doubt his ability to "see" evil anywhere, an ability that gave his life meaning. Only by killing Tim Hunter can Mister E redeem himself—or so he believes!

Mister E's hope of carrying out his mission depends on a mysterious being—part innocent and part temptress. But a terrible confrontation brings Mister E face to face with his sordid, twisted past—and his shattered soul!

MISTER E, a 4-issue New Format miniseries, is written by science-fiction and horror novelist K.W. Jeter and drawn by John K. Snyder and Jay Geldhof. The painted covers are by Merritt Dekle. MISTER E is suggested for mature readers.

MISTER E . . . his time has come.


I'VE WAITED SO LONG--
BUT NOW-- AT LAST-- HE'S HERE!
I'LL FIND HIM--
I'LL FIND HIM IF I HAVE TO CRAWL THROUGH ALL THE MILLIONS OF YEARS TO GET BACK THERE--

BATMAN VS. RĀ'S AL GHŪL IN *BATMAN: TALES OF THE DEMON!*

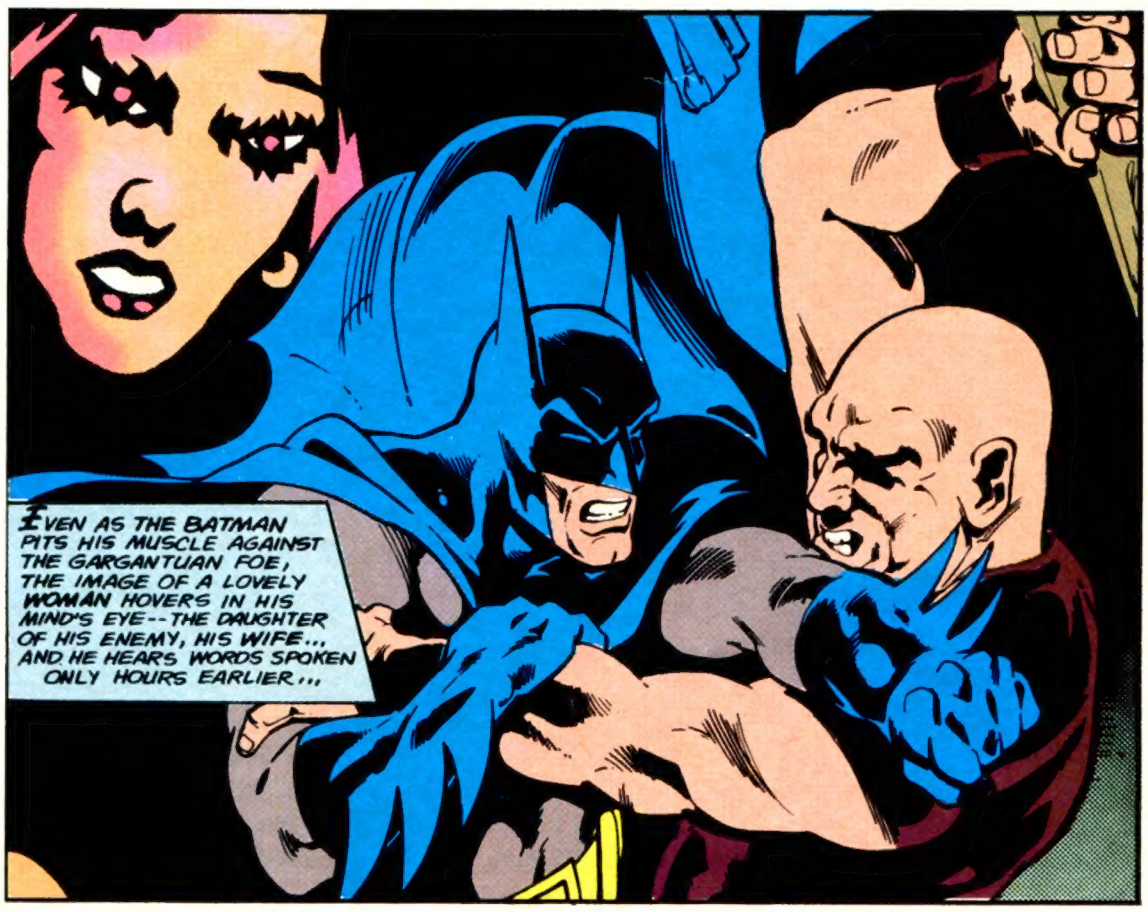
Batman has faced more than his share of formidable and deadly foes, but few have challenged his ingenuity and integrity as has the nefarious Rā's al Ghūl!

Now the classic confrontations between the Dark Knight and the lethal Rā's al Ghūl are collected together in one volume—BATMAN: TALES OF THE DEMON.

Rā's al Ghūl and his daughter, the beautiful but deadly Talia, draw Batman into international intrigue and adventure . . . and the Caped Crusader is lucky to survive! Reprinted are the 4-issue RĀ'S AL GHŪL miniseries from 1987, DETECTIVE COMICS # 485, #489, #490, and the 1978 DC SPECIAL SERIES #15: BATMAN SPECTACULAR.

All the stories, many of which have never been collected before, are written by BATMAN editor Dennis O'Neil and feature art by such comics greats as Neal Adams, Dick Giordano, and Michael Golden. Sam Hamm, screenwriter of the BATMAN MOVIE, provides the introduction to this 208-page volume, and Dennis O'Neil writes the afterword.

The stories in BATMAN: TALES OF THE DEMON form a brilliantly realized graphic novel—one that belongs in every fan's permanent collection.


EVEN AS THE BATMAN PITS HIS MUSCLE AGAINST THE GARGANTUAN FOE, THE IMAGE OF A LOVELY WOMAN HOVERS IN HIS MIND'S EYE--THE DAUGHTER OF HIS ENEMY, HIS WIFE... AND HE HEARS WORDS SPOKEN ONLY HOURS EARLIER...

BOOKS SHIPPING IN MARCH

ACTION COMICS #664
Part 5 of the 7-part "*Time and Time Again*" (continued from ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #476): The Man of Steel bounces back to the Age of Dinosaurs, giving Superman a look at the highly unusual origins of "Host." Continued in SUPERMAN #55. Written by Roger Stern, with art by Bob McLeod. Cover by Kerry Gammill and Brett Breeding. $1.00

ADVANCED DUNGEONS & DRAGONS™ Comics #28
Part 2 of 4: This list of suspects in the murder Kyriani stands accused of committing lengthens as the elfin sorceress seeks to clear her name. Written by Dan Mishkin and pencilled by Jan Duursema. Cover by Duursema. *(New Format)* $1.75

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY #16
Superboy finds himself transported eight years into his own tomorrow in Metropolis where he meets a grown-up T.J. White and several other soon-to-be-friends at the Daily Planet . . . and, hey, look up in the sky . . .! Written by John Moore, with art by Curt Swan and Kim DeMulder. Cover by Kevin Maguire and Ty Templeton. $1.00

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #478
Part 7 of the 7-part "*Time and Time Again*" (continued from SUPERMAN #55): Catapulted to the time of the Legion of Super-Heroes, Superman's found a way back to his present . . . propelled by the force of Earth's exploding moon. The tale of the exploding moon is continued in LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #19. Written and pencilled by Dan Jurgens, and inked by Brett Breeding. Cover by Jurgens and Art Thibert. $1.00

ANGEL AND THE APE #3
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
Sam's Gorilla City past comes back to haunt him as his grandpa, Gorilla Grodd, pays him a visit . . . and it's a family reunion Sam won't ever forget. Neither will guest stars The Inferior Five. Written and pencilled by Phil Foglio, with inks by Keith Wilson. Cover by Foglio and Wilson. $1.00

ANIMAL MAN #35
Buddy goes to Mexico for a stunt shoot and discovers animal abuse . . . and something strange is taking place behind closed doors at S.T.A.R. Labs. Written by Tom Veitch, with art by Steve Dillon. Cover by Brian Bolland. *(New Format)* $1.50

ARMAGEDDON 2001 #1
(of a 2-issue miniseries)
Major changes are in store for some of the DC super-heroes and those changes begin here, in ARMAGEDDON 2001! Meet Waverider, the mysterious catalyst of the changes in the DC Universe, and learn of his mysterious quest through time to destroy the super-hero fated to become a world-dominating villain . . . and stop him *now* before his destiny is fulfilled. ARMAGEDDON 2001 is the lead-in to the 1991 Summer Annuals crossovers. Written by Archie Goodwin, with art by Dan Jurgens and Dick Giordano. Cover by Jurgens and Terry Austin. $2.00

BATMAN #462
A dying man's last words send Batman to San Francisco and then to an ancient Indian dwelling where the Dark Knight confronts a creature that will forever change his life. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Norm Breyfogle and Steve Mitchell. Cover by Breyfogle. $1.00

BATMAN: DIGITAL JUSTICE Poster
It's a futuristic Batman and the digitized Joker, face to face in this full-color poster featuring all-new art by computer artist Pepe Moreno. This 22" × 28" poster is in the style of the popular BATMAN: DIGITAL JUSTICE hardcover and is the perfect addition to your Dark Knight collection. $5.95

BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #17
Part 2 of the 5-part "*Venom*": The Batman's abandoned his cape and cowl . . . but not his self-appointed mission as he takes to the streets as Bruce Wayne to mete out his own form of justice—one that has nothing to do with the law. He's driven by a dark, violent obsession for the medicine that will make him stronger and better . . . while the doctor supplying it to him has his own fiendish objectives in mind. Written by Dennis O'Neil, with art by Trevor Von Eeden, Russell Braun, and José Luis Garcia-Lopéz. Cover by Garcia-Lopéz. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.50

CAPTAIN ATOM #52
A Dominator has taken over a laboratory on Earth, but before Captain Atom can make a move against him, he's sent off into deep space, too far away to save Earth . . . and too far away to save himself! Written by Dan Raspler, with art by Michael Adams and Romeo Tanghal. Cover by Cindy Martin. $1.00

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN #3
(of an 8-issue limited series)
Is there life after the Challengers? It's doubtful, as the team splits up to pursue different goals. Written by Jeph Loeb, with art by Tim Sale. Cover by Kyle Baker. *(New Format)* $1.75

DC BULLET Pin
It's the pin everybody wants . . . the DC Bullet! It's a baked enamel pin featuring the DC logo in your choice of periwinkle blue, red, jade, purple or black and measures ¾" in diameter. Wear it with pride.

THE DEMON #11
Jason Blood learns a hideous secret about his past while the Doomsday Society predicts an apocalypse for all. And, at Arkham Asylum, Klarion raises hell by pitting Rage against Killer Croc. All this *plus* a cameo appearance by Lobo. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Val Semeiks and Denis Rodier. Painted cover by Rodier. *(New Format)* $1.50

DETECTIVE COMICS #628
An ancient blood ritual is about to be fulfilled as Abattoir plans to slaughter 6,000 citizens of Gotham City, driving The Batman to use every bit of his skill to stop him . . . or live with the terrible burden of his failure. Written by Marv Wolfman, with art by Jim Aparo and Mike DeCarlo. Cover by Michael Golden. $1.00

DR. FATE #27
While Inza Nelson faces the strange new menace of the Doctor Fate Helmet, Kent Nelson starts to pick up the pieces of his new life as an ordinary man. Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art by Vincent Giarrano and Peter Gross. Cover by Giarrano. *(New Format)* $1.50

DOOM PATROL #44
The Men from N.O.W.H.E.R.E./Flex Mentallo storyline concludes as the Doom Patrol infiltrates the Pentagon and learns of the horror of the Ant Farm. Written by Grant Morrison, with art by Richard Case and Mark McKenna. Painted cover by Simon Bisley. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.50

DRAGONLANCE™ Comics #30
Part 1 of the 3-part "*Sword of Kinslayer*": A tale from Riva's youth as she's drawn into a violent conflict between the peaceful hill dwarfs and the militant mountain dwarfs led by the deadly warlord Uurthrym. Written by Adam Blaustein, with art by Ron Randall and Randy Elliott. Painted cover by Michael Wm. Kaluta. *(New Format)* $1.75

FLASH #50
The 48-page 50th issue celebration finds Flash facing an uncertain fate as Vandal Savage leaves him for dead in the desert. And then there's the *new* Flash and his sinister secret . . .! Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art and cover by Greg LaRocque and José Marzan, Jr. Cover by LaRocque. $1.75

FORGOTTEN REALMS™ Comics #21
Guess who's coming to dinner? It's Ishi and her companions . . . but they're not there for dinner, they *are* dinner! Written by Jeff Grubb, with art by John Morales and Dave Simons. Cover by Morales. *(New Format)* $1.75

BOOKS SHIPPING IN MARCH

GREEN ARROW #45
Part 2 of the 2-part "*Rock and Runes*": In Wales, Ollie chooses to play the hero for his new friend after the stakes are increased to murder and kidnapping by the people who want him to sell his ancestral land. Written by Mike Grell, with art by Rick Hoberg and John Nyberg. Cover by Grell. (*Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format*) $1.25

GREEN LANTERN #12
Guy Gardner dukes it out with the Weaponers of Qward in the closest thing to a battle to the death as he's come . . . and it's all for G'nort. Written by Gerard Jones, with art by Joe Staton and Bruce Patterson. Cover by Staton. $1.00

GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN Trade Paperback
This is where it all began for Hal Jordan, in the hit six-issue miniseries GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN. Now DC represents the entire story in one volume, chronicling the origin of the Green Lantern Corps' greatest hero in a story by Keith Giffen, Gerard Jones, Jim Owsley, M.D. Bright, and Romeo Tanghal. The cover for this 144-page trade paperback is by Bright and Klaus Janson. $4.95

GREEN LANTERN: EMERALD DAWN II #1
(of a 6-issue miniseries)
It's the start of Hal Jordan's training as a Green Lantern . . . and the Guardians of the Universe have selected Sinestro to be his teacher. But Hal's got a problem. He's serving a 90-day jail sentence by day while fighting alongside Sinestro. Written by Keith Giffen and Gerard Jones, with art by Mark Bright and Romeo Tanghal. Cover by Bright. $1.00

HAWK & DOVE #24
When special guest star Barbara Gordon comes to town, Velvet Tiger is out to settle an old score. Can Hawk & Dove save her life? Written by Barbara and Karl Kesel, with art by Greg Guler and Scott Hanna. Cover by Dick Giordano. $1.00

HAWKWORLD #11
A plane loaded with deadly bacterial weapons is in the air and Katar joins forces with Blackhawk Express to intercept it. And on Thanagar, Shayera begins an investigation that leads her to her mother . . . and to the identity of her father. Written by John Ostrander, with art by Graham Nolan and Gary Kwapisz. Cover by Nolan. *(New Format)* $1.50

HELLBLAZER #41
John Constantine has faced them all—demons, cults, evil mystics, vampires, serial killers—but now he's facing the one enemy he can't defeat: lung cancer. By the new creative team of writer Garth Ennis and artists Will Simpson and Mark Pennington. Painted cover by Tom Canty. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.50

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #50
It's the JLA's 50th, not to mention the conclusion of the General Glory saga. This 48-page special issue pits the Justice League against the Nazi Evil Eye to save Ernie and clear the General's name by finding the *last* General Glory comic . . . or its artist. Written by Keith Giffen and J.M. DeMatteis, with art by Linda Medley and John Beatty. Also, a back-up feature gives a sneak peek behind the JLA comic as Guy Gardner brings in a new artist, with art and story by Kyle Baker. Cover by Adam Hughes and Karl Story. $1.75

JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE #25
JLE takes on the Giant Worms . . . even as they try to figure out what roles the Druid Council and Stonehenge play in this battle for merry old England. Written by Keith Giffen and Gerard Jones, with art by Bart Sears and Randy Elliott. Cover by Sears. $1.00

JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA #2
(of an 8-issue limited series)
Black Canary takes the spotlight as she tries to save Gotham City from being destroyed by looters and the unfolding plan of the Master Villain . . . a job made tougher by the arrival of Solomon Grundy. Written by Len Strazewski, with art by Grant Miehm. Cover by Tom Lyle. $1.00

KID ETERNITY #2
(of a 3-book miniseries)
Jerry and Kid Eternity embark on a journey through a mind-numbing hell of their own making as the Ripper plots more atrocities on Earth. But their voyage yields the discovery of the imprisoned Mr. Keeper. Written by Grant Morrison, with fully painted art and painted cover by Duncan Fegredo. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. Prestige Format)* $4.95

L.E.G.I.O.N. '91 #27
Vril Dox's machinations cause confusion in the war between the Khunds and the Dominion and we learn the strange fate of the Doomsday Device. Elsewhere, Stealth prepares to have her baby. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Barry Kitson. Cover by Dan Brereton. *(New Format)* $1.50

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #18
Valor's driven the Cult of the Dark Circle from the planet Orando, but they're still firmly entrenched on Cargg. What price will Valor have to pay to save the world? Written by Tom and Mary Bierbaum and Keith Giffen, with art by Giffen, Brandon Peterson, Al Gordon, and Carlos Garzon. Full-process cover by Giffen and Gordon, and cover color artist Tom McCraw. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.75

MISTER E #1
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
He faced Death in THE BOOKS OF MAGIC and now, a broken man, stripped of his power to walk through time and his unerring ability to tell good from evil, Mister E has become obsessed with kiling Tim Hunter, the boy he believes will one day become the most evil sorcerer on Earth. Written by K.W. Jeter, with art by John K. Snyder III and Jay Geldhof. Painted cover by Merritt Dekle. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.75

MISTER MIRACLE #27
Shilo and Scott are trapped in the Albanian Noodle Factory while a housewarming party rages upstairs. The Justice League guest-stars. Written by Doug Moench, with art by Joe Phillips and Bob Dvorak. Cover by Phillips and Karl Story. $1.25

THE NAZZ #4
(of a 4-book miniseries)
Captain Striker gets the real superpowers he desires, and Nazz survives the Retaliators' assault with nuclear weapons. But Nazz's girlfriend holds the key to Nazz's fate, as she comes to grips with what he has become. Written by Tom Veitch, with art by Bryan Talbot. Cover by Talbot. $4.95 *(Suggested for Mature Readers. Prestige Format)*

NEW GODS #25
The Forever People guest-star and Infinity Man returns as Beautiful Dreamer is faced with surrendering her child or allowing the annihilation of Earth. Written by Mark Evanier, with art and cover by Steve Erwin and Will Blyberg. *(New Format)* $1.50

THE NEW TITANS #76
Another surprise change in the Titans' Universe! After deciding Nightwing's too smart to stay alive, the Wildebeest Society stages an all-out assault on Titans Tower with a shocking ending! Written by Marv Wolfman, with art and cover by Tom Grummett and Al Vey. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.75

THE QUESTION QUARTERLY #2
Vic Sage returns to Hub City to reunite Myra with her dying daughter and finds the city in a worse state of deterioration than ever . . . and meets a benefactor who may want to kill him. 48 pages. Written by Dennis O'Neil, with art by Denys Cowan. Painted cover by Cowan. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $2.50

BOOKS SHIPPING IN MARCH

☐ **ROBIN #5**
(of a 5-issue miniseries)
After all he's been through, Robin still has much to learn as he goes one-on-one with master assassin King Snake. Robin learns what it means to be a hero in the stunning conclusion to this year's most talked about miniseries. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Tom Lyle and Bob Smith. Cover by Brian Bolland. $1.00

☐ **BATMAN: TALES OF THE DEMON Trade Paperback**
No single foe has so vexed or been so respected by The Batman as Rā's al Ghūl . . . and now, for the first time, their classic confrontations are reprinted in a single volume. This 208-page trade paperback edition features the 1987 RA'S AL GHUL 4-issue miniseries, DETECTIVE COMICS #485, #489, #490 and the 1978 DC SPECIAL SERIES #15-BATMAN SPECTACULAR. All stories are written by Dennis O'Neil (who also supplies the afterword) and features art by (among others) Neal Adams, Dick Giordano, and Michael Golden. The introduction is by "BATMAN" Movie screenwriter Sam Hamm. Cover by Brian Stelfreeze. $17.95

☐ **SANDMAN #26**
It's time for the Sandman to hand over the keys to hell . . . but to whom? Written by Neil Gaiman, with art by Kelley Jones and George Pratt. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.50

☐ **SECRET ORIGINS Trade Paperback**
In case you missed it the last time it was available, DC brings back the SECRET ORIGINS Trade Paperback, featuring the beginnings of Superman, Batman, Green Lantern, Flash, Justice League of America and J'onn J'onzz, The Martian Manhunter. Cover by Brian Bolland. **Relisted** $4.95

☐ **SGT. ROCK #12**
The reprinting of DC's classic tales of war goes monthly as the exploits of Sgt. Rock and the Combat-Happy Joes of Easy Company are chronicled by Robert Kanigher, Joe Kubert and other greats of comic art. Cover by Kubert. $2.00

☐ **SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN #11**
The madness has catapulted Shade and Kathy to Kansas City to take on a serial killer copying the methods of Troy Grenzer . . . the man whose body Shade is inhabiting. Written by Peter Milligan, with art by Chris Bachalo and Mark Pennington. Painted cover by Brendan McCarthy. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.50

☐ **THE SHADOW STRIKES! #18**
Shrevvie's brother dies under mysterious circumstances during the construction of a tunnel connecting Manhattan and New Jersey . . . but The Shadow isn't going to let his death go unavenged. Written by Gerard Jones, with art by Mark Badger. Cover by Eduardo Barreto. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.75

☐ **SPELLJAMMER™ #9**
An evil wizard has cast a spell on Meredith, forcing her to act as an agent for his malevolent army planning an assault on the Spelljammer mothership. Written by Jeff Grubb, with art by Joe Quesada and Dan Panosian. Cover by Chris Wozniak and Jerry Acerno with a painted backdrop by Eric Kachelhofer. *(New Format)* $1.75

☐ **STAR TREK® #19**
When asked to speak at the funeral of a security officer who died to protect him, Captain Kirk realizes he knew nothing about him. Written by Peter David, with art by Gordon Purcell and Arne Starr. Cover by Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.50

☐ **STAR TREK®: THE NEXT GENERATION #19**
A quiet day aboard the Enterprise finds Troi and Dr. Crusher scaling new heights while Wesley and Riker square off over Benedict Arnold. Written by Jan Friedman, with art by Peter Krause and Pablo Marcos. Cover by Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.50

☐ **STARMAN #34**
The Batman guest-stars as he pursues a gang of Gotham drug dealers to Phoenix where, with the aid of Starman, they battle a gang that could devastate the city. Written by Len Strazewski, with art by Dave Hoover and Scott Hanna. Cover by Hoover. $1.00

☐ **SUICIDE SQUAD #52**
Guess who's back, in the most offbeat SUICIDE SQUAD ever? It's the Death and Life and Death and Life and Death and Life of Doctor Light. Written by John Ostrander and Kim Yale, with art by Jim Fern and Robert Campanella. Cover by Fern. $1.00

☐ **SUPERMAN #55**
Part 6 of the 7-part *"Time and Time Again"* (continued from ACTION COMICS #664): Back in medieval England, Superman engages in pitched battle with the unrestrained magic of history's most powerful sorcerer—Merlin. Concluded in ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #478. Written and pencilled by Jerry Ordway and inked by Dennis Janke. Plus, Part 2 of the Newsboy Legion back-up feature that pits them against the DNAlien, written and drawn by Karl Kesel. Cover by Ordway. $1.00

☐ **SWAMP THING #107**
Part 4 of the 6-part *"The Quest for the Elementals"*: Deep in a Pacific Ocean trench, Swamp Thing attempts to rescue a large group of trapped elementals as Matango's forces begin their assault on the Parliament of Trees. Written by Doug Wheeler, with art by Mike Hoffman. Painted cover by Ian Miller. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format)* $1.50

☐ **TINY TOON™ ADVENTURES MAGAZINE #3**
The Tiny Toons take on Mother Nature as their Acme Looniversity class project has them making a jungle action-adventure movie. It's wild. It's fierce. It's the Spring Safari Issue . . . and don't bet Ma nature will come out on top in this wacky encounter. Cover by Juan Ortiz and Bob Pasquale. $1.95

☐ **TWILIGHT #1**
(of a 3-issue miniseries)
The twilight of mankind is upon the universe and Tommy Tomorrow and the Planeteers, the Star Rovers, Star Hawkins, Manhunter 2070, Ironwolf, and Space Cabbie, the heroes of the future, all interface in a web of intrigue, temptation, and corruption. Written by Howard Chaykin, with art and cover by José Luis Garcia-Lopéz. *(Suggested for Mature Readers. Prestige Format)* $4.95

☐ **WHO'S WHO #9**
(of a 16-issue maxiseries)
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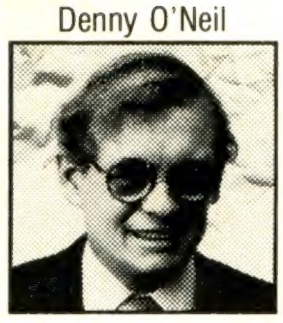
people at WORK

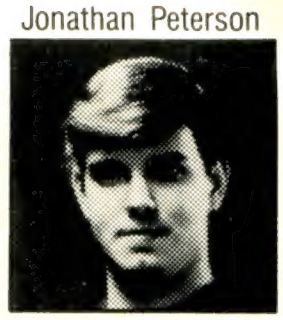
ARCHIE GOODWIN, DENNIS O'NEIL, and JONATHAN PETERSON

Archie Goodwin

Denny O'Neil



Jonathan Peterson



Every now and then, DC comes up with an idea that excites both the editors and creators to such an extent that they can hardly wait to share it with the readers. This year, that idea is ARMAGEDDON 2001, a crossover series bracketing this summer's DC annuals.

"ARMAGEDDON 2001 gives the DC Universe some forward momentum," says ARMAGEDDON 2001 co-editor Jonathan Peterson. "It's not a ditzy annual stunt, that by the time you're finished with it, the reader says 'Who cares? What was the point of it?' ARMAGEDDON 2001 does have a point and a story with a beginning, a middle, and an end."

That story involves the present and the future of the entire DC Universe and heralds a dramatic change for at least one major character . . . although you'll have to wait until the series' end to find out who that character is.

But we'll let the books' writers and editor tell you about it. Archie Goodwin is the scripter of the first of the two "bookend" issues of ARMAGEDDON 2001. "Essentially, this grew out of our planning the 1991 annuals," he said. "I made the suggestion that for a theme, the annuals reveal the futures of the characters in the year 2001. Everybody liked that idea. Jenette Kahn (DC's president and editor-in-chief) had one spin on it. Why not also have a new villain and hero who would bring this about, creating continuity between the books?

"Since I was the guy who opened his mouth about what to do, I volunteered to work on this. Denny O'Neil and Jonathan Peterson, for whatever reasons haunt their souls, also volunteered. The three of us started spitballing what might bring such events about. We wound up with the notion of a villain of the future who has made things so unpleasant that one exceptional person finally rebels and goes into the past to try to change things.

"At one editorial meeting someone suggested that a current hero could be the one who becomes this villain of the future. Then I went home and began working on what such a villain might be like and what kind of person might oppose him. I came up with the hero-turned-villain, *Monarch*, and the common man-become-hero, *Waverider*. Monarch is aware that someone might want to tamper with time to prevent his coming to absolute power, so he institutes a time travel program that he can control and thereby protect himself. What he cannot conceive is that someone might have the wit and the will to use his own program against him.

"The story of how one man sacrifices everything to become Waverider and journeys back in time to strike at Monarch before he becomes a tyrant, when he was still a super-hero, is essentially what ARMAGEDDON 2001 #1 is all about. From there, the story goes into and through the various annuals, and then Denny wraps it all up in the second of these two crossover bookends, which will tell what happens when Waverider finally exposes his prey. It'll affect jillions of our characters and really shake things up."

Co-editor Peterson is the project's head cheerleader. "I think this will be a great summer event that will allow people to get in on things, to see the beginning of something new and follow up on something old. It should make for a summer of all-out fun.

"I see ARMAGEDDON as a stepping stone to change the makeup of the DC Universe, to shake it up a bit as well as to tie it together a bit more, because what you have is a classic case of all these characters who are in the wrong place at the wrong time and the story comes out of that. But the thing that's neat about that prospect is that it allows you to tinker with things.

"What we're trying to do is bring together an often fragmented universe, create changes, and draw the readers' attention because they don't want to miss the change. At that collective moment, with certain events tied together, it gives us a chance to showcase so much of the DC Universe." Of course, the *biggest* impact will be felt in the look of the character who is destined to become Monarch, but Jonathan says, "It will have an impact on the entire DC Universe. It potentially changes the DC Universe. And it happens gradually before your eyes as you read through the entire event."

The ARMAGEDDON event takes place in Superman Annual #3, Batman Annual #15, Justice League America Annual #5, New Titans Annual #7, Hawkworld Annual #2, Flash Annual #1, Action Comics Annual #3, Hawk & Dove Annual #2, L.E.G.I.O.N. '91 Annual #2, Adventures of Superman Annual #3, Detective Comics Annual #4, and Justice League Europe Annual #2. Denny O'Neil edits the introductory bookend issue of ARMAGEDDON 2001, while Jonathan Peterson edits the climactic conclusion where the heroes of the DC Universe team up to combat Monarch. Jonathan recalls coordinating the crossover stories with the different editors.

"What started out as a potential nightmare turned out to be a pleasure," Jonathan told us with obvious relief. "We had an editorial meeting where the event was presented to the rest of the editors. What was great—since you're dealing with a variety of different editors and their own personal tastes—was that everyone liked the bookends and came up with terrifically strong stories springboarding off them. The thing that shocked me, because you're talking about eleven annuals, is that no one ended up with the same story as someone else. Everyone had really cool stories for their characters and had come up with things that played to their own current continuities. I think people will love the results.

"The stories in the annuals all present *potential* futures for the DC characters. Archie came up with the best analogy for what it's about: it's like a timestream river and, like any river, you can suddenly throw a big rock in it and divert the stream. So there is a potential future that exists, but that's not to say that tomorrow someone won't throw a rock in, say, Superman's river and suddenly his life will veer away from the future that'll be shown in the Superman annuals. In fact, Mike Carlin is the one who can really ram home the point because he has three different annuals to show three different potential futures for Superman. These futures aren't carved in stone. I call them *probable* futures. For example, the New Titans Annual very much affects current Titans continuity, even though it's only a probable future. It *is* going to play into the current continuity of the shakeup I'm doing in that book."

Denny O'Neil is also co-editor, and is writing the second issue of ARMAGEDDON 2001, which follows the stories in the annuals and wraps up the entire event, including revealing the identity of Monarch. "For me, ARMAGEDDON is going to be a departure from the kind of work I've done in the last six or so years because this will be real flamboyant science fiction," Denny says. "No skulking around in dark alleys at night. No grim and gritty here. I haven't decided yet how much real speculative science I'm going to try to shoehorn in, but it will certainly be cosmic and deal with much larger ideas and concepts than I'm used to dealing with. I haven't been very cosmic since I left Marvel, but we're "cosmicking" like crazy with this one.

"It's a really neat event to try, particularly since we're not doing this in the context of an imaginary story. We're making it a bit 'real' in that we're taking a fairly valid notion about the nature of time and possibility and playing off that. I don't know how clearly that's going to come across, but we're not doing anything that isn't at least *theoretically* possible on some of the wilder shores of speculative physics.

"People tend to like time travel stories. Witness the popularity of the *Back to the Future* films. I think we're going to be able to give people that sort of story without violating established continuity, which is very important in our world at this time. I think it's going to be a very successful crossover. At least the writers I've engaged [in his role as editor of the Batman titles] to contribute to it have been very enthusiastic about doing it. Both of them have turned in very nice stories and I'm very happy with both of them. So if, across the line, all of the creative people perform that well, this crossover event is going to be a real audience-pleaser. Solid, valid comic books."

Denny also believes that ARMAGEDDON will have an effect on the DC Universe. He said, "I think the main change is going to be our turning a major super-hero into an important new villain. Overall it's going to have an impact. Time only tells how major anything will be . . . sometimes the little throwaway stunts that you do just for an issue turn out to be, in the long run, major elements. And sometimes things you think will be big and large and important sort of fade into the background after a while. Be that as it may, we're doing something with the DC Universe and we'll know in a year or three how major an impact it will have."

But while we're waiting for the results, we'll at least have the first big comic book event of the 1990s to keep us entertained.

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